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Message Text

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21
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-06 AF-04 EUR-08 IO-03

L-01 H-01 INR-05 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCCT-01 /069 W
---------- 102244
R 040834Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4390
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USINT BAGHDAD
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 0016

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, XF, OPEC, KU
SUBJ: OPEC KIDNAPPING

1. DURING AMBASSADOR'S FARESELL CALL ON KUWAITI OIL MINISTER KAZIMI, LATTTER EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT GEORGE HABBASH,
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LEADER OF POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (PFLP),

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PROBABLY BEHINE VIENNA OPEC KIDNAPPINGS, WITH FULL SUPPORT
OF IRAQI LEADERS. ACCORDING KAZIMI, GOI WANTED TO ABORT
OPEC SESSION CRITICAL OF IRAQI OIL PRICING POLICIES. WHEN PRESSED,
HE ADMITTED THAT KIDNAPPING ALSO PROBABLY HAD POLITICAL MOTIVE
AND THAT LIBYANS COULD HAVE PLAYED ROLE.

2. WE FIND KAZIMI'S SUGGESTIONS NOT ATYPICAL OF CONVOLTUED
KUWAITI VIEW OF IRAQI ROLE VIS-A-VIS ARAB WORLD AND KWUAIT, IN
PARTICULAR. WE SERIOUSLY QUESTION WHETHER OIL PRICE DIFFERENTIALS
ENTERED INTO VIENNA KIDNAPPINGS, BUT KUWAITI ARE NOT WRONG IN
LINKING PFLP AND IRAQ.

3. ACCORDING TO KAZIMI, CARLOS SPOKE LIMITED ARABIC,BUT WAS
KNOWLEDGEABLE OF GULF AREA. CLAIMED HE HAD VISITED DHOFAR,
SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAIT. ONLY CRITICAL COMMENTARY CONCERNING
KUWAIT HAD BEEN OF LOCAL TREATMENT OF IRANIAN WORKERS FROM AHWAZ--
WHO CARLO'S SAID WERE ABUSED BY KUWAITI EMPLOYERS. IN CONTRAST,
IRANIANS AND SAUDI'S ROUNDLY CONDEMNED BY TERRORISTS.

4. KAZIMI SAID THAT SHORTLY FOLLOWING HIS RELEASE HE HAD
RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY ARGUING NEED FOR
WORLD-WIDE EFFORT TO COUNTER TERRORISM. KAZIMI SAID HE HAD
RESPONDED TO TELEGRAM CONCURING IN SEANTOR'S VIEWS. HE ALSO
EXPLAINED THAT MODERATE LINE HE HAS TAKEN IN PUBLIC TOWARD
VIENNA INCIDENT WAS NOT FROM PERSONAL CONVICTION BUT WITH WEATHER
EYE COCKED ON LARGE PALESTINIAN POPULATION LIVING IN KUWAIT.
NEVERTHELESS, IT WAS CLEAR FROM CONVERSATION THAT KAZEMI
FOUND CARLOS A FASCINATING CHARACTER -- "A MAN WITH MANY
ADMIRABLE QUALITIES."
STOLTZFUS

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